

Our Offerings

There are several different offerings made by our people, and those newly come to the faith sometimes do not fully understand the nature of each and for what purpose it is given, so we will try to explain.

FIRST DAY OR WEEKLY OFFERING.—For years our people have been in the habit of making weekly offerings to assist in mission work. In America they plan to give ten cents, (fivepence) each week. In this country we have adopted the "sixpence-a-week" plan. That is we try to lay aside one penny each day to assist in supporting our missionaries. We certainly would not think of doing less and the way is open to do more if we so desire.

SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS.—The first money donated from America to open the work in South Africa was given by the Sabbath School. The plan of all our schools is to use as little as possible of these offerings and devote the remainder to mission work. Let me ask a question. Why should not every family supply their children with the "Little Friend" and "Instructor," and each person buy the lesson quarterly, and thus be able to turn this stream into Mission Fund also? The Claremont Church has decided to do so.

ANNUAL OFFERINGS.—Several years ago our people decided to make Christmas offerings for God's work, instead of spending money making presents. God has blessed their effort. As our week of prayer is not held at the Christmas season, we now call them "Annual Offerings." To-day, I saw a letter from Sister White, in which she urges our people to save the pennies and shillings for God's work. Brethren, teach your children to give. God besses the liberal soul. We hope for a good Annual Offering this year as a token of our love for God's work. w. s. HYATT

The Lord's Plan

Is this not enough to inspire every one with confidence, and a spirit of earnest cooperation? Surely God's places are right, and will, if carried out, bring success. "God calls us to action, that our educational institutions may be freed from debt. "Let God's place be worked out after His own order. He calls upon all our people to help to the utmost of their ability just now. In every church let every member of every family make determined efforts to deny self and to help forward the work. Angels are commissioned to go forth with those who take up this work in true humility. I call upon our people to enter earnestly and disinterestedly upon the work of freeing the school debt. Through the work for the relief of our schools a fourfold blessing will be realized-a blessing to the schools, to the world, to the Church, and to the workers" Vol. 6. Who believes it? Who will co-operate in the work, and receive the blessing? Now is the time to act.

I. J. HANKINS.

Object Lessons.

The sale of this book is a blessing to the buyer, to the seller, and to the educational work. The church located at Beaconsfield believes this, and is actively engaged in selling it. Four hundred and fifty copies have been sold in four months, and the brethren have no thought of ceasing their efforts until the work isfinally accomplished. They greatly desire the co-operation of all the churches and scattered brethren in South Africa. This they should have. Every Seventh Day Adventist should be interested in this good work, and should do his part in selling the books. Kimberley has set a good example, especially when we remember that 300 books were sold there when the first effort was made, eighteen months ago.

Bro. Tickton puts in from one to four days each week on Object Lessons, and the church pays him by the day. One member sold 50 books, others are selling as they have time and opportunity. They had a will to do and they have found a way, and the Lord is blessing them.

People take the book readily, and are pleased with it. But a small portion of the city has been canvassed in the sale of 450 books. From 12s. 6d. to 50s. per week to Bro. Tickton draws pretty heavily on the purses of the brethren, in addition to church expenses, 30s. per month, fourth Sabbath offerings, 11s. per month, 1st. day offerings, \pounds_4 per quarter, and the annual offering just taken, over f_{6} beside the tithe. The active resident membership does not exceed 22. They have been proving the Lord's promise true : "Give, and it shall be given you," etc. Not only have they received more money to give, but they have received spiritual blessings as they have engaged in spiritual work. We enjoyed a good season together during the week of prayer, and all go forward with new courage and increased faith to finish the gospel work in this generation.

I. J. HANKINS.

Read Our Papers.

Are you a reader of our papers? Are you a subscriber to the *Sentinel*? Does the *Journal of Health* visit YOUR home every month? It is possible for you to keep pace with the message and not read the MISSIONARY? I do not know how it is possible.

Our papers are printed for our people. They are full of truth for these last days. Therefore they should be constant visitors to our homes, and when read, given to some friend. The Sentinel has several converts who are today rejoicing in the blessed truth. The *Journal of Health* has been enlarged, and we hope you are pleased with it. I assure you that you will like the journal if you will read it. It contains the message of health that you need.

A man is interested in that of which he has a knowledge. That is why we want you to read our papers. If you know they contain good things then you will want all your neighbours to read them too.

Many of our children can sell them, and are, in this way, doing a good work. There is not a preacher in our ranks who preaches so many sermons each month and asks for so little pay. Let them go everywhere and sound abroad the last message to perishing sinners. Now if you are not a subscriber, please subscribe at once, and not miss a copy this year. W. S. HYATT.

Che "Sentinel "Printing Office.

I wish to express my thankfulness that our people are responding to our call for aid in the building up of our *Sentinel* office. This is right. All our people should feel like the little boy who gave a penny to the Missionary ship, "That is ours." Though the gift is ever so small it gives us a part in the concern, and "it is ours."

When I first accepted the truth I had longings to have a part in building up our institutions, and my first money was spent in securing stock in the *Review and Herald*. Since that I have tried to have a part in every enterprise started where I was. 1 have met many others who have had the same desire. Although the gifts were small, God accepted them "according to that a man hath."

Brethren, you have seen in the Review the

responses made by our people when the many calls have been made. Some of these were small, but when old and young unite, the stream quickly swells into a powerful river. This is the way it should be in our work. When the call comes every one should respod, "Here am I."

It is not the Lord's plan that I should give all I have to spare to one enterprise and leave others equally needy and worthy without assistance. Let our gifts be spread out to various enterprises. We should live expecting that those whom we bave placed at the head of the work will call for funds If they are progressive in the work. Let us be ready to uphold their hands. Send all donations or pledges for the *Sentinal* office to O. O. Fortner, 56, Roeland Street, Cape Town.

W. S. HYATT.

Natal-Cransvaal Conference.

The annual session of the above Conference convened in Maritzburg Church on Friday, November 13th, when there were present about twenty-five delegates besides the members of the local company. Elder W. S. Hyatt, and Brethren Ingle and Fortner, also had come down to take part in the meeting of the S. A. U. Conference.

As the Conference does not possess tents sufficient for camping, the visiting delegates were hospitably entertained by the local church members, most of whom have recently come into the faith.

At the meeting held on the first sabbath of the Conference, twenty-six candidates offered themselves for baptism, and Bro. Hyatt preached a stirring and touching sermon on the marriage of the Believer to Christ, in Baptism. Following this, on Sunday afternoon, we went to the Umsindusi River, about two miles out, and, in the presence of a goodly number of spectators, surrounded by lovely willows and green banks, we buried these dear souls with their Lord in the flowing stream. This service was deeply impressive. Elder Hyatt gave the address, Elder Kuehl assisted, and the writer administered the baptism—but the Lord gave His Spirit. We feel very thankful to the Lord for these who have been given us in the recent effort which have been carried on here, and Lam thankful to say there are several more who expect shortly to be added to the church.

During the Conference advantage was taken to hold several Bible-studies, which were exceedingly profitable to all. The attendance was not as large as we have been accustomed to see at Conference meetings, because we are a young and very small conference, with only about sixty members outside of the new converts, The delegates were housed mostly a long distance from the meeting-house, which also worked against the attendance. The large Town Hall was engaged for evening meetings, but owing to the inclement weather few attended.

Perhaps the best meeting of the Conference was the one held the last Sabbath when the new members, delegates, and friends fellowshipped for the first time around the Lord's supper table. It was a blessed season, which will be long remembered by all present.

The reports for the three quarters closing Sept. 30, show satisfactory standing. The amount of tithes received to Sept. 30 was £532 18s. 8d; Sabbath School Donations received, £43 11s. 9d₅. This whole amount has been sent to the mission-fields. The First Day Offerings, one church not having yet reported, reached £20 17s. 111d. This report shows a steady proportionate increase per quarter on tithes account of ± 30 ; on S. S. Donations of 22s. 6d. per quarter. The work of the Echo Company was reported, showing that the Company have been pushing the book-work very successfully during the past fourteen months, and selling about 4,000 worth of books, in number about 7,451 of all kinds.

As the ministerial work had been seeking to build up the two new churches, there were no new churches added. Bro. Kuehl has been working at Johannesburg, where a company had been formed by converts from different

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parts, who have no meeting-house. It was felt that he had better build up the work there before starting in outside aggressive work. At Maritzburg, a tent effort had been held which resulted in the addition of those already mentioned and who will be baptized.

The Conference decided to undertake several responsibilities during the coming year. It was decided to take over the Echo's stock and establish a tract society in connection with the Conference at Maritzburg; (2) To become responsible for one thousand copies of the local Health Journal, and to push the sale of the S. A. Sentinel; (3) To endeavour to sell one thousand copies of "Christ's Object Lessons" during 1904 to help the College at Claremont out of debt; (4) To push the Health Food business, the medical work and the canvassing work under the inspiration of the text "There shall be delay nolonger."

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: —President, Herbert J. Edmed; Vice-President, J. C. Baumann; Conf. Sec. and Treasurer, and Tract Society Secretary, J. H. Camp.

Just after the Conference closed, we found a suitable office, centrally situated, at a low rental, including two roomy offices and a large store, which we have engaged, and we now have a good amount of our stock on the shelves, and are almost ready to begin work as a full-fledged Tract Society. Our future address will be, International Tract Society, Printing Office St., Pietermaritzburg, Natal.

We wish to most heartily and reverently thank our dear Heavenly Father for the progress of the past year, for the good reports, for the good spirit that prevailed in our deliberations, and for the riches of His grace. The prospects for the coming year are good. Several new workers have been added to our ranks from among the converts, and the Lord is with us. We praise His glorious Name.

Dec 30, 1903. н. J. EDMED.

Pietermaritzburg Church.

We are thankful to be able to report a few interesting items. A meeting was recently

held for the purpose of considering the advisability of moving the Church to a more convenient situation, and about £300 was raised in cash, pledges and goods. Last week the educational question was presented, and about £100 was raised for the purpose of starting local church school on the following а basis :- Donors' children will be taught free of charge, and nondonors will pay a tuition fee about equal to the ordinary charges of the Government schools. Contributions were given by those members who have neither wives or children, and all seemed anxious to follow the Lord's plan of "sharing the expense." Miss Amy Ingle was accepted as teacher, having been invited to the position in anticipation of this move, by the officers of the Conference. A Committee was appointed. to draft a set of regulations for the school management.

A young soldier who has become converted to the truth recently, and who has stood up for the truth in the army, has been assisted by the church to purchase his dismissal from the forces, and will join the canvassing forces for the Lord.

We are rejoiced to see the liberal spirit of , these good brethren and sisters. Mr. Jolly is thoroughly canvassing the city for subscriptions to the *Sentinel*. Her report will appear in next issue of the MISSIONARY.

Bro. Ernst is out with the Gospel wagon, and is having a unique experience for South Africa. He is preaching and giving picture entertainments in the various churches; enjoying hospitality at the hands of various ministers, and securing their recommendation for his books. The wet weather has made it somewhat hard for the little donkeys, but he proceeds steadily through the scattered territory where no one else could go.

Sister Stapleford, at Dundee, reports having sold a copy of "Great Controversey" to a Roman Catholic Priest there. Let us pray it may be as seed sown in good soil.

We take this opportunity to wish all our Brethren and Sisters a very Happy and Blessed New Year, and a place in the Kingdom when Jesus comes. HERBERT J. EDMED.

Letter Concerning Brother Watson's Death.

Cholo, B. C. Africa, Dec. 13, 1903.

Dear Brother Fortner,-

I sent you a wire informing you of the death of Mr. Watson, which was so sudden. He was sick twelve days with the African feyer, and died Friday morning, December 11, ten minutes before five. I think we did everything we could for him, and prayed without ceasing, but it seemed it was not the Lord's will to save save him. It was very hard for me to understand why he should be taken away just now when we were getting the work started in so much better shape. Things were just beginning to look brighter, and we we were full of hope and courage. It almost seemed to me that the Lord had made some kind of mistake ; that it could not be possible that this is what He desired to advance the work here. But no. God does not make mistakes, so I left the case in His hands from the very first. It must have been His will or He would not have allowed it. He knows how much it means to me, and my prayer now is that He will give me strength to bear the grief of myself and child.

I will not take the time now to write of my loved one's sickness and death for I hope to soon see you, and will then tell you of it.

It was Mr. Watson's wish that I should return at once to the Cape, so that is what I expect to do unless you wire me differently. I do not know much about business matters, and do not feel that I can settle things here alone.

I received your letter the day Mr. Watson died. I have read it once, but will do so again.

I am so sorry to leave the work here, for our hearts were in the work, but I am nothing without my husband. I do feel so helpless and so much resting on me to bear alone.

I am staying for a day or so with some missionaries whose station is near our mission. They have been very kind to me, and brought Romaine and me home with them after Mr. Watson's funeral. I have also received very kind letters from other missionaries who were

unable to come on account of distance. It is a great blessing, Brother Fortner, to have friends in Africa when one has such sorrow as mine.

I will do all in my power to leave things in good shape. I will stay until someone is sent to look after the work if you wish me to, although I would rather get out of the country before the heavy rains set in. It will be hard for me to stay here alone. Still if it is your wish I will do it. The Lord will help me, for I have already borne more than I ever thought I could. Please write me as soon as you can, and give me full instructions what to do.

Yours in deep sorrow,

MRS. J. H. WATSON.

Death of Brother Kalaka.

I regret very much to announce that the hand of death has taken away my senior fellow labourer, David Kalaka, the first man who took hold of the truth in this country-Bro. Kalaka was as well as could be on Sabbath afternoon when, with his family, I had the usual study of the Senior Sabbath School lesson. He and others were particularly impressed with some points brought out of the lesson, especially as to God allowing Satan to develop his character as the usurped ruler of the world, and the terrible condition of things being the result of his rule.

He took ill during the night after Sabbath with cramps in all the muscles of the body. I visited him, and prayed with him. He died on Monday night. The last words on his lips were : "Blessed is the one whose sins are forgiven."

Bro. Kalaka was a capable man, wellknown in the country, and had had ability to do a great work in giving this last message. He was near or about 60 years of age, a man of large proportions and splendid address. I shall miss him very much. It is difficult to realize he is dead, coming so suddenly.

J. M. HERMAN.

Rokely Park Mission Band.

Another quarter has flown away. How time does fly. Every quarter brings me nearer the end, and what has our recording angel placed to our credit in the Book of Heaven? Let every reader of the MISSIONARY ask themselves this question.

Well, our Mission Band is still working. During the last quarter we had six meetings, with an average attendance of twenty; articles were made, and others given to the value of $\pounds 4$ 12s. 3d., donations, $\pounds 1$ 3s. 6d. Papers sent away 955. On account of so many papers the expenditure was rather heavy, but $\pounds 2$ was donated to the Basuto Mission.

pro Secretary. E. W. WILLMORE.

Our Sabbath School

Che Home Department Work

I would like once again to call the attention of our Superintendents and Secretaries of our different Sabbath schools, to the Home Department work in our schools. I have sent you a leaflet explaining the work, and I hope each school will start the work. One secrewrites me that all of their members come to school, so there is no need of any such work being done there, but do not get that idea, for surely there must be some one that does not have the benefits of Bible study, and if they do not belong to us as a people perhaps by using the Home Department plan; you may win them to Christ.

I can speak intelligently to you upon this phase of the work for I have been doing some of it myself, and I can say that my own soul has been watered, and if you in your work receive the blessed experience that I have, you will say with me, it is the way to keep alive. Some plead the excuse that they have too much to do, and cannot spare the time to make these visits. I know I have done so, but never again will I let Satan so crowd me that I cannot take time for work of this kind.

Let us as sisters dress more simply, live more simply in every way, and if we are obliged to leave some of our own work undone, the pleasure of knowing that we have been a blessing and comfort to some one else will repay us for the effort we have made. And then if one soul receives the light and learns the way to Jesus will not that make up for all we have left undone of our housework ? It has come to me so often of late that when we come up to the end, all these things that have looked of such great importance in our eyes now, and hindered us from doing work for the Master, will seem so trivial, and we shall feel so ashamed. But we still have time to redeem the past, and I am sure if you will impress this upon your schools, and head the movement yourselves, you will see fruits for your labours. As we read the daily papers in the light of prophecy, (and at this time can we read them in any other?) and see how fast the signs are fulfilling and how fast we are drawing to the end, I feel that we must, as officers, and teachers, and scholars, and children, all be working to help others to see the light.

We have 11 schools reporting to me in this Colony, with a membership of 325, and out of this there may be one half unable to work in this way, but if the other hundred or so would bring one other into the school or where they could learn the truth, do you think the work would stop with these? No, it would go on until we should come to that time when we could lift up our heads and say "this is our God, we have waited for him." We are told by the Spirit of Prophecy that it is our coldness and indifference that is keeping back the coming of our Lord, and when I think of it and how great God's forbearance with us is still holding the four winds so that we may get ready, my own heart is melted, and I have resolved not to be a slothful servant any longer.

One thing more, please address all letters to my P.O. Box 647 as it adds to the work at the Roeland Street Office to remail my letters when addressed there. J. N. MASON.



To Our Young Folks.

Life is full of opportunities. Do you answer, Surely not mine. Yes, yours, no matter how commonplace, or how full of uninteresting hum-drum it may be. Every person, whoeyer or whatever you are, has the power to improve and become a blessing in the world, making life a joy to yourself and to those around you. No one will ever fail in this who tries to make each day reach, as nearly as possible, the high water mark of pure unselfish, useful living.

Of the commonest, and oftimes most lightly regarded of these opportunities, is that of *time*. To everyone is given this great blessing, and the important question is how will you use it. Every hour is full of opportunities, They come like angels, holding in their hands rich treasures sent to you from God. If you are laggard or indolent or too intent on your own pleasure to properly use these heavenly messengers with their gifts, they quickly pass and are gone.

Dear young people, are you trying each day to improve your mind, to get an education that will be of use to you and make you a worker together with God. Don't let the hours of youth slip by with no effort on your part. Now is the time for action. If you get yourself a sound, practical education, it will be worth more to you than mines of gold. The power to do this lies within each of you. Determine you will have an educacation at whatever cost. It will cost hard work and self denial, but you will never regret the effort. If you can have the advantages of a good school, strong teachers and energetic class mates it makes the road to success pleasant and interesting. Do not feel, however, that it depends on these. You can make great advancement in your own home. Read, study and think while you are planning and devising ways to go to school. Determination will reap rich rewards, and we all have opportunities *at hand* if we will only *use* them.

A story is told of a ship that was lost at sea for many days, suddenly it sighted a friendly vessel. From the mast of the unfortunate vessel was seen a signal, "Water, water, we die of thirst," The answer from the friendly vessel at once came back, "Cast down your bucket where you are," A second time, the signal "Water, water, send us water!" ran up from the distressed vessel, and was answered "Cast down your bucket where you are!" The captain of the distressed vessel at last heeding the injunction, cast down his bucket, and it came up full of fresh, sparkling water from the mouth of the Amazon. To young people who are waiting to improve their condition before using their opportunity of time already given them, let me say "Cast down your bucket where you are." Make every day a day of advancement. Use the faculties God has given you. You can learn lessons from your dooryard, from the sky above you, from the food you eat, and the air you breathe. These are a life-long study. Nature is a text book that we never complete, and through all our life and the one to come, we shall be learning new lessons. R. M. H.

Cape Colony Canvassing Report for December, 1904											
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South African Missionary

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE

South Mirican Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists. 56 Roeland Street, Cape Town. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 2/6 PER YEAR.

Editor: - - - 0. 0. FORTNER.

Che Death of Our Missionaries.

The mission forces in South Africa have sustained a great loss during the last two months. We were stricken with grief a few weeks ago, when we received a letter from Sister Watson, telling of the death of Brother Watson at the Nyassaland Mission. Not being acquainted with the circumstances, but desiring to give our readers an account of the same, we have taken the liberty to print a portion of Sister Watson's letter. We know it will be of interest to all.

During the early part of last year Brother and Sister Watson and little boy spent a few weeks in Cape Town on their way to Nyassaland. They were full of hope, courage, and confidence in the Lord. When they reached the mission the work was in a very uncertain state, having been left so by Brother Booth. But they began at once to establish the work, and they were beginning to see the fruit of their labour when our Brother was called upon to lay down his life. We know not why this is so, but the Lord knows. We are sure that the heartfelt sympathy of all our people will be with Sister Watson in this dark hour of her experience.

A short time after we had received the word from Nyassaland, a wire came from Brother Freeman, announcing the death of Brother Kalaka, Sr., at the Basuto Mission. A report will be found in another column from Brother Freeman, giving the circumstances in connection with Brother Kalaka's death.

It is a sad blow to our mission work to have these workers stricken down by death. It will help us to realise and appreciate the danger that surrounds those who go to these

unhealthful places to hold up a risen Saviour, that the thousands who are smitten with sin may look, believe, and be saved. o. o. F.

Che Next Special Number of the Sentinel.

We are preparing to get out a special number of the Sentinel for April on the subject of Capital and Labour. This is the weighties tand mightiest subject that is stirring the nations of to-day, and is threatening the industrial peace of this and every other country. We must be wide awake during these important issues, that we may see the application of prophecy to the extraordinary conditions now prevailing. We must warn the people and let them know what these things mean, that they may know that the Lord is soon coming. This will be the object of the Special April Number of the Sentinel. It will contain articles from the best writers from abroad, and the best writing talent in our own field will be utilized. This number will be illustrated by a cover design and by other illustrations. It will be full of truth for this time. Every Seventh Day Adventist in this country, young and old, will want to sell this paper. We ought to use 12,000 or 15,000 copies. 6,000 copies of the Christmas number were sold without half an effort. We want to hear from all our churches to know how many copies will be required. We may write to you personally, if we do not hear from you. Let us work together in this gigantic effort to give South Africa the 0. 0. F. message.

Printing Office Fund.

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